

(4) Taiwan's achievements in the field of health are substantial, including one of the highest life expectancy levels in Asia, maternal and infant mortality rates comparable to those of western countries, the eradication of such infectious diseases as cholera, smallpox, and the plague, and the first to eradicate polio and provide children with hepatitis B vaccinations.

(5) The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and its Taiwan counterpart agencies have enjoyed close collaboration on a wide range of public health issues.

(6) In recent years Taiwan has expressed a willingness to assist financially and technically in international aid and health activities supported by the WHO.

(7) On January 14, 2001, an earthquake, registering between 7.6 and 7.9 on the Richter scale, struck El Salvador. In response, the Taiwanese government sent 2 rescue teams, consisting of 90 individuals specializing in firefighting, medicine, and civil engineering. The Taiwanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs also donated \$200,000 in relief aid to the Salvadoran Government.

(8) The World Health Assembly has allowed observers to participate in the activities of the organization, including the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1974, the Order of Malta, and the Holy See in the early 1950's.

(9) The United States, in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review, declared its intention to support Taiwan's participation in appropriate international organizations.

(10) Public Law 106-137 required the Secretary of State to submit a report to the Congress on efforts by the executive branch to support Taiwan's participation in international organizations, in particular the WHO.

(11) In light of all benefits that Taiwan's participation in the WHO can bring to the state of health not only in Taiwan, but also regionally and globally, Taiwan and its 23,500,000 people should have appropriate and meaningful participation in the WHO.

(b) PLAN.—The Secretary of State is authorized—

(1) to initiate a United States plan to endorse and obtain observer status for Taiwan at the annual week-long summit of the World Health Assembly in May 2001 in Geneva, Switzerland; and

(2) to instruct the United States delegation to Geneva to implement that plan.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 14 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a written report to the Congress in unclassified form containing the plan authorized under subsection (b).

## NOTICE OF HEARING

### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Wednesday, May 16, 2001, at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider the nominations of J. Steven Griles to be the Deputy Secretary of Interior, Lee Sarah Liberman Otis to

be the General Counsel for the Department of Energy, Jessie Hill Roberson to be the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management of the Department of Energy, Nora Mead Brownell to be a Commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulation Commission, and Patrick Henry Wood III to be a Commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulation Commission.

For further information, please contact David Dye of the Committee staff at (202) 224-0624.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 9, 2001. The purpose of this hearing will be to consider nominations for positions at the Department of Agriculture.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 9 at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing. The committee will consider the nominations of Francis S. Blake to be the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Energy, Robert Gordon Card to be the Under Secretary of the Department of Energy, Bruce Marshall Carnes to be the Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Energy, and David Garman to be the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for the Department of Energy.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 9, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. for an oversight hearing on Federal election practices and procedures.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, May 9, 2001, at 10:00 a.m., in Dirksen 226.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be author-

ized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 9, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, AND DRINKING WATER

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Drinking Water be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 9, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., to evaluate the listing and de-listing processes of the Endangered Species Act.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### SUBCOMMITTEE ON SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND MERCHANT MARINE

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 9, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., on state of the rail industry.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Amanda Farrish from my staff on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of this debate.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2001

Mr. ENSIGN. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 10. I further ask consent that on Thursday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and that the Senate then resume consideration of the conference report to accompany the budget resolution as under the previous order.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## PROGRAM

Mr. ENSIGN. For the information of all Senators, there will be up to 1 hour 50 minutes of debate remaining on the budget conference report tomorrow morning. It is expected that some time on the resolution will be yielded back, and therefore the vote is expected to occur between 11 and 11:30 tomorrow morning. After the disposition of the budget conference report, the Senate